

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78473

Kazuhiro OMORI, et al.

Appln. No.: Based on PCT/JP2004/016918

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: May 9, 2006

Examiner: Unknown

For: NIOBIUM POWDER FOR CAPACITOR, NIOBIUM SINTERED BODY AND
CAPACITOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: Based on PCT/JP2004/016918

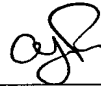
IA20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 09 MAY 2006

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (revised International Search Report and corrected Written Opinion for PCT/JP2004/016918 dated February 22, 2005 and February 4, 2004, respectively), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. Additionally, JP 52-109409 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 4,154,609 and U.S. Patent No. 4,229,217.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 9, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>		
				Application Number	Based on PCT/JP2004/06988	
				Confirmation Number	US 6,157,878	
				Filing Date	May 9, 2006	
				First Named Inventor	Kazuhiro OMORI	
				Art Unit	Unknown	
Examiner Name				Unknown		
Attorney Docket Number				Q78473		
Sheet	1	of	1			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² <i>(if known)</i>		
		US 4,154,609		05-15-1979	R. HÄHN
		US 4,084,965		04-18-1978	S. S. FRY
		US 1,728,941		09-24-1929	J. W. MARDEN, et al.
		US 4,687,632		08-18-1987	F. W. HURD, deceased et al.
		US 6,136,062	A	10-24-2000	J. LÖFFELHOLZ, et al.
		US 4,229,217		10-21-1980	R. HÄHN
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ <i>(if known)</i>			
		WO	2002/064858	A1	08-22-2002	H.C. STARCK, INC.	
		JP	4-362102	A	12-15-1992	Showa Cabot Super Metal Co., Ltd	Abstract
		JP	52-109409		09-13-1977	H.C. STARCK, INC.	
		JP	10-242004	A	09-11-1998	Showa Denko K.K.	Abstract
		JP	2002-25864	A	01-25-2002	Showa Denko K.K.	Abstract
		JP	2003-123208	A	04-25-2003	Alps Electric Co. Ltd.	Abstract
		WO	00/49633	A1	08-24-2000	Showa Denko K.K.	Abstract
		WO	01/06525	A1	01-25-2001	Showa Denko K.K.	Abstract
		WO	00/15555	A1	03-23-2000	Cabot Corporation	
		WO	00/15556	A1	03-23-2000	Cabot Corporation	
		WO	02/15208	A1	02-21-2002	Showa Denko K.K.	Abstract
		WO	02/93596	A1	11-21-2002	Showa Denko K.K.	Abstract
		WO	01/35428	A1	05-17-2001	H.C. STARCK GMBH & CO. KG	Abstract
		WO	01/26123	A1	04-12-2001	Showa Denko K.K.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.